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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SCHIAVON et al

Atty. Ref.: 2548-13

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

National Phase of: PCT/IB99/01957

International Filing Date: 8 December 1999

Filed: 5 June 2001

Examiner:

For: **BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE CONJUGATES HAVING A
DETECTABLE REPORTER MOIETY AND METHOD OF
IDENTIFICATION OF SAID DERIVATIVE**

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June 5, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS (AS ON ARTICLE 34 AMENDED SHEETS)

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

4. (Amended) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 2 characterised in that said functionalizing entity FE is a linear polymer.

5. (Amended) The biologically active conjugate derivative according to claim 2 characterised in that said functionalizing entity FE is a branched polymer.